



The Ultimate Guide to the JR Pass





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Intro

Thank you for booking your Japan Rail Pass with Klook! This Ultimate Guide to the JR Pass is here to help you on your travels in Japan and navigating the Japan Rail network.

Klook





Glossary

ENGLISH	DEFINITION
Exchange Order	The voucher you receive when you purchase a JR Pass before you visit Japan. Once you're in Japan, you transform this into your actual pass.
JR Pass	The Japan Rail (JR) Pass is a special pass available to short-term visitors for sightseeing and travelling across the train network in Japan.
Temporary Visitor Stamp	On arrival into Japan you will automatically get a temporary visitor stamp in your passport if you are a foreign passport holder from a visa-exempt country. This includes the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, UK, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and other countries.
Car Type	Train cars. There are two car types available with your JR Pass: Green and Ordinary.

ENGLISH	JAPANESE	DEFINITION
Exchange Offices or Travel Service Center	Ryoko Center	You can transfer your Exchange Orders, make seat reservations, and pick-up individual tickets at Exchange Offices or Travel Service Centers. Most major stations have an Exchange Office. You can find the list of Exchange Offices at this link .
Reservation	Yoyaku	Seats you book prior to your trip.

ENGLISH	JAPANESE	DEFINITION
Reservation Office	Midori-no-madoguchi	Place where reservations are made.
Super Express	Shinkansen	Japan's bullet trains.
Limited Express	Tokkyu	These only stop at major stations.
The Express	Kyuko	Trains that have fewer stops than local trains.
The Rapid Train	Kaisoku	Trains that have more stops than the Express, but have fewer than local trains. They usually cost the same as Local Trains.
The Local Train	Kakuekiteisha	Trains that stop at every station.
Ordinary car	Futsusha	Basic train cars.
Green car	Green-sha	First-class train cars.
Reserved seats	Shiteiseki	Available when making an advanced reservation.
Non-reserved seats	Jiyuseki	Available when you weren't able to make an advanced reservation.



Map





- Hokkaido Shinkansen
- Tohoku/Jōetsu Shinkansen
Akita/Yamagata Shinkansen
- Hokuriku Shinkansen
- Tōkaidō Shinkansen
- San-yō Shinkansen
- Kyushu Shinkansen
- Other available lines

Note: Nozomi & Mizuho trains are **not covered** by JR Pass

For simplicity, many minor lines are not shown.

JR Hokkaido



JR East

JR West



JR Central

JR Shikoku

JR Kyushu

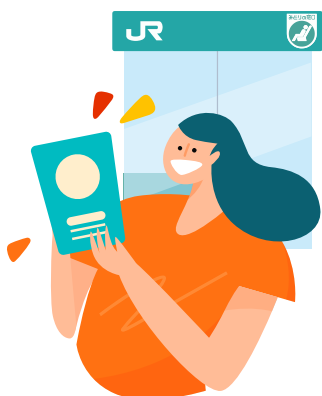


Step-by-step:
turning your
Exchange Order
into a JR Pass

Congratulations on taking the first step to having an epic holiday in Japan! When you book your Japan Rail (JR) Pass, you will receive an Exchange Order voucher. Then once in Japan, you'll transform it into your actual Japan Rail Pass.

Not familiar with the exchange process? Let's walk you through it:

STEP 1



When you land in Japan, make your way to the nearest JR Pass Exchange Office to start the transformation process. Make sure you have your passport with your temporary visitor stamp and Exchange Order ready to show the Exchange Officer.

Receive your JR Pass. This is what you need to present at the ticket gate to get onto trains or when you make seat reservations.



STEP 2

A woman with long reddish hair, wearing an orange coat and yellow gloves, is crouching on the right side of the image, feeding a small deer. The deer is standing on a grassy area with fallen red leaves. In the background, there are trees with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow, orange, and red. A large orange shape with a blue circle containing white diagonal lines is on the left side of the image.

Locations of the Exchange Offices

ell

Exchange Offices can be found at JR stations. Just look for the JR Ticket Counter, Information Desk, or Travel Service Center. Here are the Exchange Offices:

AIRPORTS			
Narita Airport Terminal 1,2,3	New Chitose Airport	Haneda Airport Terminal 3 Station	Kansai Airport

TRAIN STATIONS		
Kushiro	Ikebukuro	Sannomiya
Obihiro	Hamamatsucho	Okayama
Asahikawa	Shinagawa	Tottori
Sapporo	Tachikawa	Yonago
Hakodate	Kawasaki	Sakaiminato
Shin-Hakodate-Hokuto	Yokohama	Matsue
Aomori	Shin-Yokohama	Hiroshima
Morioka	Odawara	Shin-Yamaguchi
Akita	Mishima	Shimonoseki
Sendai	Shizuoka	Takamatsu
Yamagata	Hamamatsu	Matsuyama
Fukushima	Nagoya	Tokushima
Niigata	Toyama	Kokura
Nagano	Kamazawa	Hakata
Omiya	Kyoto	Saga
Kashiwa	Higashi-Maizuru	Nagasaki
Funabashi	Shin-Osaka	Kumamoto
Tokyo	Osaka	Oita
Ueno	Shibuya	Miyazaki
Shinjuku	Nara	Kagoshima-Chūō

You may check this [list of exchange offices](#) to know which one is nearest to you.



**What trains
you can
travel with**

With your JR Pass, you can travel on all JR Group Railways (Shinkansen “bullet trains” – minus Nozomi and Mizuho), limited express, express trains, and local trains including rapid and special rapid services.

Your JR Pass is also valid on the following non-JR lines with special conditions:

FROM TOKYO AIRPORTS:

Tokyo Monorail
from Haneda Airport
to Tokyo

Narita Express
from Narita Airport
to Tokyo

IN TOKYO – THE METRO LINES, BUT NOT THE SUBWAY:

Yamanote line

The circular loop line that connects all metro lines. It also connects Tokyo’s major city centres.

Chuo line

Connects Tokyo station with Shinjuku station.

Keihin-Tohoku line

Stops at Ueno, Tokyo, and Shinagawa stations.

Sobu line

Saikyo line

AS WELL AS ON:

Local JR Bus Lines

JR West Miyajima Ferry

Aomori Railway Line

Journeys must start and end at Hachinohe and Aomori

Ainokaze Toyama Railway Line

Journeys must start and end at Toyama and Takaoka

IR Ishikawa Railway Line

Journeys must start and end at Kanazawa and Tsubata

FROM KANSAI AIRPORT, OSAKA:

Haruka Express
(incl. Hello Kitty train)

Kansai Airport Rapid

Some services using the JR pass require an additional base, express charges or surcharges which will be collected on the respective trains. Or it can be charged as an adjustment fare at your destination station.

These services are:

Fuji excursion services and JR Chuo line through-services

between Otsuki and Kawaguchiko

Hashidate / Tango relay services

Fukuchiyama-Miyazu,
Miyazu-Nishi-Maizuru,
Miyazu-Toyooka

Mt. Fuji services

between Shinjuku and Matsuda

Nanki / Mie services

between Kwarada and Tsu

Odoriko and JR Ito line services

between Ito and Izukyu-Shimoda

Shirayuki services

between Naoetsu, Joetsumyoko and Arai

Shimanto / Ashizuri services

between Kubokawa and Sukumo,
including JR Yodo line
through-service between Wakai and Kubokawa

Spacia, Spacia Kinugawa and Kinugawa services

between Kurihasi and Tobu-Nikko/Kinugawa Onsen

Super Hakuto and Super Inaba services

between Kamigori and Chizu

Super Odoriko services

between Mishima and Shuzenji



PLEASE NOTE: The JR Pass is not valid on trains that are not operated by Japan Railways but are private railways in Japan, such as the Odakyu Line, Tokyo Subway, and Keio Line. While most Shinkansen trains are covered by the JR Pass, the **"NOZOMI"** and **"MIZUHO"** Shinkansen trains are not.

How to make seat reservations



The JR Pass covers free seat reservations. Seat reservations can be made in person but not online. Head to a Travel Service Centre or a JR Reservation Office to make a reservation. There, you will show your pass and receive your reservation ticket, which will include your train time, car, and seat number.



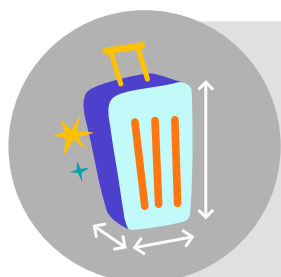
Reservations aren't required on most trains but are highly encouraged to avoid disappointment.

Seat reservations can be made up to a few minutes before a train's departure.



Those travelling in a group who want to sit next to or near each other should also make seat reservations earlier.

During certain times of the year, such as New Year's, Obon, or Golden Week, it is recommended that you reserve a seat at least three days before your intended travel date.



If you're travelling with oversized baggage (total dimensions length + width + height **over 160 cm** – similar to international flight rules) you'll need a seat reservation with an oversize baggage area. Sports equipment (bikes, skis), strollers and musical instruments are excluded from this!



Tips and tricks when riding the train



1

Still getting familiar with Japanese characters? Don't fret; every JP Rail station name is also displayed in English! When you look at a sign, you will see the station's name in the middle in big letters. The following and preceding stations are listed in smaller letters near the lower portion of the sign.

2

Need a place to keep your stuff before you tour around? Look for the coin lockers at most major stations and leave your belongings there. A coin locker usually costs about ¥100.

3

All Shinkansen trains have public-use telephones! To use these, you must purchase prepaid telephone cards at a station kiosk or aboard your train.

4

Put your phone on mute! If you have to take a call, remember to keep your noise to a minimum or move to the area between train cars to avoid disturbing fellow passengers.

5

If you can, avoid the morning and evening rush hours, especially if you travel in major cities. These are usually from 7:30 to 9:30 am and 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

6

Eating is usually frowned upon on commuter trains, but not on Shinkansen and the limited express. Some mobile vendors sell Ekiben, a boxed lunch of snacks and Japanese treats to keep you filled up during your trip.

7

If you need a wheelchair-accessible seat, it's better to contact your local station to check if your chair meets the train guidelines. Some trains don't allow powered wheelchairs, so we recommend you check with your station staff.

8

Much like everywhere else, don't litter. Take your trash with you and dispose of it at trash cans available at every platform.



**Other
activities**
you can
pre-book
with Klook



Japan is famous for its well-preserved tradition as well as its ultra-futuristic landscapes and attractions. Many attractions, activities and experiences that make Japan so unique are often booked out quickly due to their popularity, so it is highly recommended to book them in advance to avoid disappointment.

Peak season in Japan tends to be between March and May (Cherry Blossom/Sakura season), however some of the following attractions are popular year-round, so it is recommended to pre-plan as much as possible.

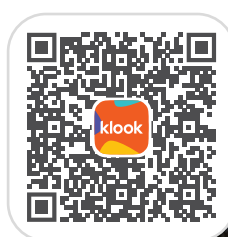


UNIVERSAL STUDIOS JAPAN

Visit the Minions, Mario, Luigi, the rest of the Nintendo squad, and more of your beloved cartoon characters at **Universal Studios Japan**! With Klook, you can choose from a 1-, 1.5-, or 2-Day Studio Pass and get instant booking confirmation on your USJ E-ticket.

DISNEYLAND TOKYO

Continue the fun at the Happiest Place on Earth, **Tokyo Disneyland**, and **Tokyo DisneySea**. Experience two days of magical fun when you book 1-Day Passports at each attraction. Get instant confirmation on your booking with Klook, and you can directly enter the venue with your voucher. Re-entry is also permitted—just show your ticket upon re-entry.





GHIBLI MUSEUM

Step into Hayao Miyazaki's world of whimsical wonders at Tokyo's **Ghibli Museum**! Get up close and personal with Totoro, Howl, Ponyo, and so much more when you walk through exhibits. Short movies can also be watched from its Saturn Theatre. Tickets for this museum are sold out almost all the time —they're only available for advanced reservations, so book yours on Klook!

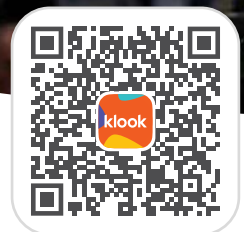
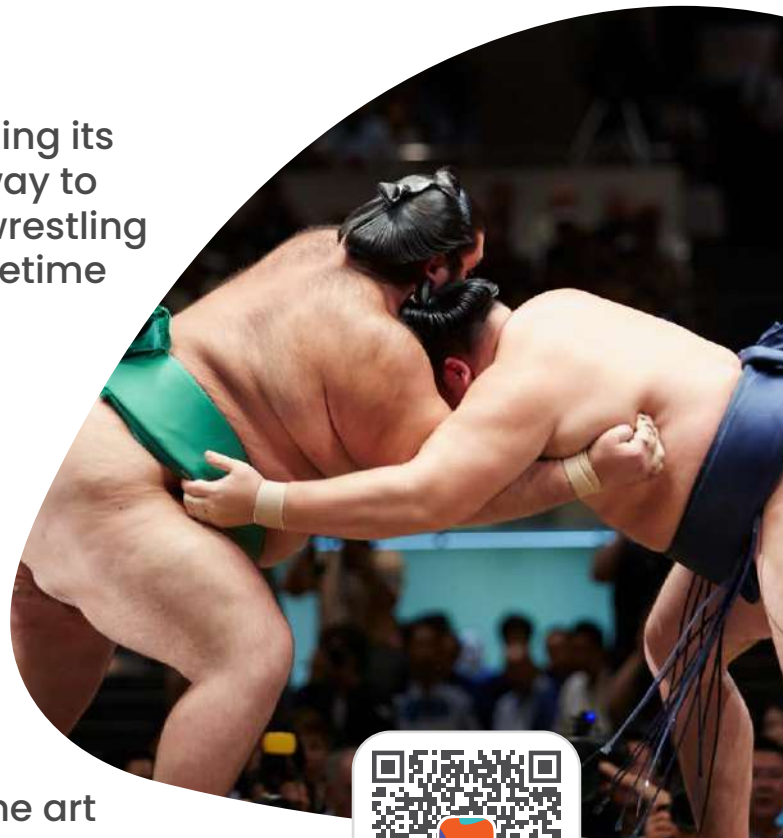


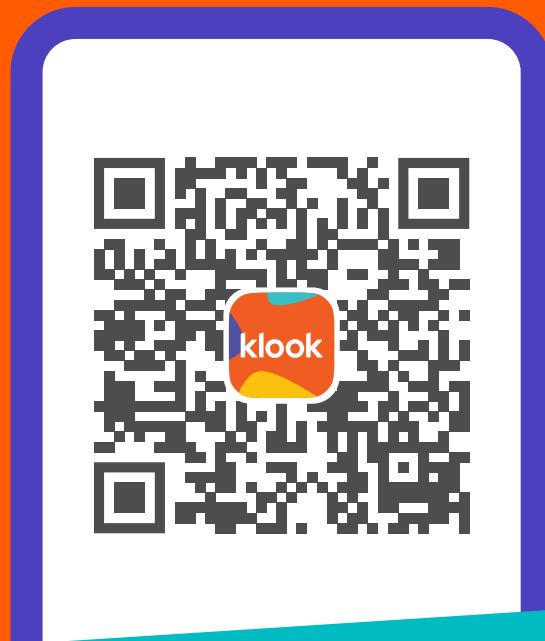
WATCH A SUMO WRESTLING MATCH

What's a trip to Japan without watching its national sport in action! Make your way to Ryogoku, the prime area for sumo wrestling in Tokyo, and have this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to watch an accurate **grand sumo match**! Sumo wrestling matches happen every year in January, May, and September, and tickets run out fast! Book with Klook to get instant booking confirmation so you won't miss out.

If you can't get your hands on those tickets, you can **watch a casual sumo training sesh**. Observe sumo wrestlers in action as they practise the art of sumo outside matches. You'll be in awe at the rituals and etiquette they do while training!

For more information, read through our **ultimate guide to Sumo Wrestling in Tokyo**!





Get Klook-ing now on the
website or on the mobile app
available on the Apple or
Google Play Store!

